

Prevention Redesign Initiative

PRI

Washington State
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

Making a Difference

Franklin Pierce YOUTH FIRST!

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Tacoma, WA 98444
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Our Mission: To mobilize community members and resources to support families and provide an environment in which youth grow up physically and emotionally healthy, safe, and alcohol & drug free.

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Drug Free Communities Coordinator

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Sarah has worked in social services and community development for 10 years focusing on building capacity in local communities and advocating for positive change for children. She has worked in the Franklin Pierce community since 2010.



Franklin Pierce, Washington

Community and Coalition Overview:

The Franklin Pierce community lies entirely within unincorporated Pierce County covering approximately 30 square miles. It is known by residents to encompass the Parkland, Summit, and Midland communities. Franklin Pierce has high rates of mobility, poverty and other risks. Despite the challenges faced in the Franklin Pierce community, there are resources within the coalition with many service providers and the school district taking active and pivotal roles. Additionally, Pacific Lutheran University, Garfield Business Association and key businesses and groups are resources in creating further economic growth and opportunities for the community.

As a community with no town center or governing council, the schools are frequently the hub of the community and access to resources. Franklin Pierce School District is a key resource. The partnership with the district and Franklin Pierce YOUTH FIRST! has been equally collaborative with services and programs such as Life Skills, Guiding Good Choices, after school programs including AmeriCorps teams and many others resulting from the partnership. FPYF has twelve Drug Free Communities (DFC) sector representatives as a DFC grantee in its third year.

Additional resources represent a continuum of services in many domains. A sampling of these resources include the Parkland Family Support Center; several churches providing meeting space, volunteers, and emergency needs for families; Kiwanis and Rotary; local branches of Pierce County Libraries; and numerous social service providers offering a variety of services.

General Statistics

Community: Franklin Pierce

Population: 43,342

Zoning: Suburban

Median Household Income:
\$47,400

Coalition Founded: 2001

Ethnic Diversity of Students

Nat. Am.	0.2%
Asian/Pac. Isl.	12%
Black	11.4%
Hispanic	19.9%
White	45.1%
Multiracial	11.4%

PRI Contacts

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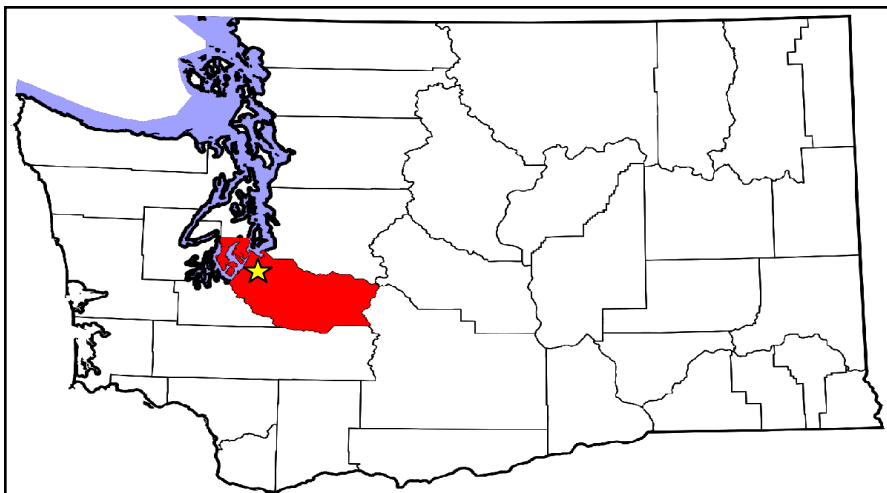
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Franklin Pierce, Pierce County, Washington

Highlights of Local Problems:

- The percentage students in grades 6, 8 and 10 who have favorable attitudes toward substance use is higher than the state average.
- In all grade levels surveyed, students are beginning substance use at a younger age (HYS 2010).
- Families move often, and there is an increase in multi-family housing.
- Except for Tacoma, there are more families receiving state assistance than in all Pierce County districts.
- There are high rates of poverty: 68% of students in Franklin Pierce schools receive a free or reduced lunch. This is higher than all other districts in the county.

Contributing Conditions:

The community is suburban and located entirely in unincorporated Pierce County. There is no town center, governing town council or major industry. The population is highly transient. The retail alcohol density is high, with 68 outlets, with the majority located on Pacific Avenue. The community borders the military community.

Successes:

While the community has a high level of risks, the FPYF Coalition has had success in embedding prevention efforts in schools and the community. Previous success includes teaching prevention in the schools, parenting classes, increasing capacity in the community and creating environmental strategies led by students and community members. Environmental strategies included the support of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) groups at all secondary schools, and implementing a positive community norms campaign.

Working with our partners, the coalition recognizes opportunities for effective prevention efforts. Collaboration continues to evolve and strengthen allowing for implementation of programs such as the following:

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Life Skills Training | • Afterschool programs |
| • Project SUCCESS | • Intervention Case Mgr Program |
| • Guiding Good Choices | • Positive community norms campaign |
| • Parenting with Love and Logic | • School SADD teams |